NEWS

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SCAQMD Issues Smoke Advisory Due to Multiple Wildfires

This advisory is in effect through Sunday morning. SCAQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

A wildfire, named the Valley Fire, is burning in San Bernardino County within the San Bernardino National Forest near Forest Falls. The burn area is currently reported to be approximated at 1,000 acres with five percent containment. Easterly winds are expected to shift from the west during Saturday afternoon before turning easterly again during the evening. This will bring smoke into the central and east San Bernardino Valley. Any thunderstorms that develop in the area could cause conditions to change rapidly. Air quality may reach Unhealthy for Sensitive Group levels or higher in areas directly impacted by smoke.

Three brush fires are currently burning in the Camp Pendleton area in San Diego County. The Vandegrift Fire is currently reported at 350 acres with seventy percent containment. The Horno Fire is currently reported at 1,000 acres with twenty percent containment. And the 409/Impact Fire is currently reported at 250 acres with zero percent containment. Winds are expected to continue from the west/southwest throughout Saturday afternoon and then shift from the south in the evening. This will bring smoke into south Orange County at times. Air quality may reach Unhealthy for Sensitive Group levels or higher in areas directly impacted by smoke.

Areas of direct smoke impacts and Unhealthful air quality may include portions of:

- San Bernardino County: Areas 29 (Banning Pass Area), 34 (Central San Bernardino Valley), 35 (East San Bernardino Valley), 36 (West San Bernardino Mountains), 37 (Central San Bernardino Mountains), and 38 (Big Bear Lake)
- Orange County: Areas 19 (Saddleback Valley), 20 (Central Coastal Orange County), and 21 (Capistrano Valley)

In any area impacted by smoke: Everyone should avoid any vigorous outdoor or indoor exertion; people with respiratory or heart disease, pregnant women, older adults, and children should remain indoors. Keep windows and doors closed or seek alternate shelter. Run your air conditioner if you have one and keep the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean to prevent bringing additional smoke inside. Avoid using a swamp cooler or whole-house fan to prevent bringing additional smoke inside. To avoid worsening the health effects of smoke, don't use indoor or outdoor wood-burning appliances, including fireplaces.

SCAQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/air-quality/advisories/advisory.pdf

To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to http://AirAlerts.org

To view current air quality conditions by region in an interactive map, see http://www3.aqmd.gov/webappl/gisaqi2/home.aspx

For more information on avoiding health impacts from smoke, see SCAQMD's Wildfire Smoke & Ash Health & Safety Tips page at: http://www.aqmd.gov/wildfire-health-info-smoke-tips

For a map of SCAQMD Forecast Areas, see

http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/default-document-library/map-of-monitoring-areas.pdf

The SCAQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties.